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Borough of Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1953,

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1954

38, HOLLY WALK,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

September, 1954.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WARWICK.

Mr. MAYOR, Mrs. LEES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my fourth annual report upon the health of the district. There were no major epidemics but the incidence of Anterior Poliomyelitis was higher than in the previous year. There were also more cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. The County Council has continued its scheme of offering to parents vaccination of infants, against the latter disease and it appears from the records as if this work will have useful results.

Again the record shows a fall in the number of new houses completed. This has necessarily lengthened the waiting period before allocation and will make it difficult to press forward with the slum clearance programme which has long been needed. As it is the clearance of the Friar Street Area has proved as much as can be undertaken for the present. Unless a higher rate of building can soon be achieved and sustained, it seems inevitable that the Council will have to consider a programme of deferred demolition by the acquisition and patching of old unfit houses under powers conferred by the new housing legislation.

The sewerage improvements, which the Borough Surveyor has had in hand, will shortly make their presence felt. It is likely also that there will soon be developments of plans to expand the supplies of water available. Existing sources can barely satisfy the needs of the Borough and require to be augmented.

I wish to end by an expression of thanks to the members and officers of the Council for the consideration, encouragement and help which have been extended to me at all times throughout the past year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,
Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Warwick

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1953	...	...	15,620
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	15.2
" " " (corrected)	...	...	15.8
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 births	...	...	16.5
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	10.9
" " " (corrected)	...	...	10.6
Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis	...	...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and { From Other Causes	...	...	—
Child-birth			
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	12.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	13.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1

Population.—An increase of 110 on the estimated figure for 1952.

Birth Rate.—The figure is below the average of the past 7 years (17.0) but slightly above the rate for England and Wales which is 15.5.

Death Rate.—This is just over the average for 7 past years (10.8) but below that for England and Wales (11.4).

Ten deaths were due to violence, three by suicide, one from a motor vehicle accident and six from other accidents.

Infant Mortality.—For 1945 and each subsequent year the infant death rate has been below the rate for England and Wales.

Statistics for the past seven years and also for England and Wales in 1953 will be seen under Table II.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

Medical Officer of Health :

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

J. BULLOCK,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. Institute of Housing.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

S. H. WEST,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. R.S.I. for Smoke Inspectors.

Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Waterworks Engineers :

R. WORMELL, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M.E., A.M.T.P.I.

Public Analysts :

HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.*Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	—	2	2
Enteric Fever ...	2	—	2
Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—
			4

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

I am indebted to Mr. Wormell, the Borough Engineer, for much of the following information :—

1. Water Supply.

Quantity.—The rainfall for the year was below average whereas the water consumption rose by 18,000,000 gallons to 258,632,900 gallons or 42 gallons per head per day. Supplies were maintained from the main source at Haseley augmented by our subsidiary pumping well at Woodloes ; also a small quantity was taken from the Hatton Central Hospital's supply. Economy notices were issued during the summer to all consumers.

Quality.—During the year regular bacteriological tests were made, both at the source and the town mains, each test proving satisfactory.

2. (a) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—Work continued on the new low level outfall sewer. This will relieve the older and over-loaded sewer system and at the end of the year work on the pipeline was almost finished.

Sewage Disposal.—New stormwater treatment tanks at the sewage works are being provided in conjunction with the new sewer. The completion of this programme should ease the general situation at the sewage works.

2. (b) *Rivers and Streams*.—The cleansing of the Gog Brook and the provision of new culverts, etc., has considerably eased the flow and there has been no overflow of the brook since the works were done.

3. *Sanitary Accommodation*.—Sanitary fittings were provided during the year at existing buildings as follows :—

<i>Type.</i>			<i>No. of premises concerned.</i>	<i>New W.C's</i>	<i>Lav. Basins.</i>	<i>Chemical Urinals.</i>	<i>Chemical Closet.</i>
Factories	...		5	17	12	11	—
Licensed							
Houses	...		1	1	1	3	—
Schools	...	...	2	6	3	6	—
Private							
Houses	...		13	17	12	—	—
Shops	...	...	1	1	1	—	—
Offices	...	...	4	9	5	—	—

4.—*Public Cleansing*.—Despite a general shortage of labour regular collection of refuse was kept up, and the tip on the Stratford Road site was retained in satisfactory condition.

5. *Swimming Baths*.—The public baths were opened as usual during the summer season. The “chloramine” process of sterilization in conjunction with a small filter was used to treat the continuous flow of water.

D. HOUSING.

During the year 50 houses and 4 two bedroom flats were completed on the Council's Housing Estates. Four private building licences were issued and three houses completed during the year.

Preliminary surveys and levelling were carried out at the Council's proposed new Estate near the Coventry Road.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1945

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1945	...	—	21	—	10	—	—
1946	...	3	4	—	8	—	—
1947	...	1	12	—	14	—	1
1948	...	—	10	—	5	—	—
1949	...	—	10	—	3	—	—
1950	...	1	9	1	6	—	—
1951	...	3	4	1	14	1	1
1952	...	—	7	—	3	3	11
1953	...	—	7	—	6	6	10

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1953.

The number of notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia remains high owing to the new statutory definition.

School Closures.—Nil.

Diphtheria.—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunization.—There was again some interruption of the programme during the autumn on account of the outbreak of Poliomyelitis. Accordingly the figures were below average but comparable with those for 1952. During 1953, 7 school children and 162 children under school age were protected for the first time, and 105 Booster doses were given to maintain the immunity of older children.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.—Six cases were notified and there was one death.

The first case appeared in late July, 1953 and the other five followed within the next five weeks although no direct connection was traced between any of them. Four of the patients were boys aged from five to seventeen years

and there were two affected girls aged one and nine years respectively. Three out of the four boys showed no motor paralysis but the fourth boy died in Warwick Hospital the day after admission. Both the girls had some paralysis.

The disease was fairly prevalent in the neighbourhood during the second half of 1953 as about 30 cases were reported within the area of the Combined Sanitary Districts. However, no fresh case arose in the Borough after the end of August, 1953.

Measles.—Measles was prevalent this year and 149 cases were recorded.

Whooping Cough.—103 notifications came in during 1953. Of these 12 were infants under one year and 3 were adults. 159 infants were immunised against Whooping Cough.

As regards new notifications, the total was higher than last year. However, enquiries have been made into the incidence of the disease, among immunized children and others at ages under five years, and it has been found that the relative frequency of Whooping Cough among the latter is more than twice that of the immunized group in the districts comprised in the Central Area of the County Health Services. For the whole County the rate is even more in favour of the immunized.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Tuberculous Milk Investigations.—Routine milk samples were taken by authorized officers of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination. Results were obtained from samples taken as follows:—

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950. (SECTION 8.)

Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.—Routine milk samples for biological examination during the year 1953.

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
Pasteurised	1	Nil.
“Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)”	—	—
“Tuberculin Tested”	1	Nil.
“Accredited” and Non-graded	4	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ...	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ...	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45 ...	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 ...	5	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	22	17	1	—	2	1	—	—

During the year 40 new cases of Tuberculosis, were notified, 39 being Pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. This is an increase of 8 over last year.

24 patients were admitted for treatment at a Sanatorium, and 28 were discharged during the year. Only 3 deaths occurred.

The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1954-1934 (20 years) :—

<i>Tuberculosis.</i>	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Cases ...	12	14	24	21	20	32	27
Deaths ...	9	5	12	6	7	8	9
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases ...	22	12	11	38	29	20	31
Deaths ...	13	10	13	11	12	9	8
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	
Cases ...	20	20	21	22	32	40	
Deaths ...	14	6	6	8	1	3	

The Coventry Mass Radiography Unit of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board visited Warwick Borough as follows :—

July 15th—24th.
October 5th—9th.

and were centred upon Lakin Road Clinic and Warwick School. The programme was planned in co-operation with the Medical Director and his staff and the bulk of the sessions were devoted to organized parties from factories, shops and schools. The following figures, supplied by Dr. Gordan Evans, relate to Warwick Borough :—

			<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Persons examined	...	...	1951	1401	3352
Cases of Tuberculosis	}	(1) active	—	—	7*
discovered and re-		(2) inac-	—	—	18
ferred for advice		tive			

* Incidence rate of 2.09 per thousand examined.

Of recent years B.C.G. vaccine has been offered to children in contact with Tuberculosis who react negatively to skin sensitivity tests. This year 24 persons under fifteen years of age received these injections under the supervision of the Chest Physicians. The work is still in the experimental stage but the aim is to allow the children to remain with safety in the infective home environment. The segregation of cases during the first six weeks after injection is no longer a feature of the local scheme, but the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council has a scheme for the boarding out of infants where this proves necessary.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 of this Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months.

Two cases were investigated during the year as the result of reports received from a relative and a health visitor respectively. The first was that of an elderly spinster living alone in an almshouse, who had become temporarily unable to care fully for herself as the result of pneumonia. As no hospital vacancy existed, arrangements were made for neighbours to help her. The second case was that of a bedridden old lady and the family doctor was able to arrange for her to be taken on the hospital bed list.

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Council of the Borough of Warwick.

Mr. MAYOR, Mrs. LEES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ended 31st December, 1953.

Inspections and re-inspections of all classes totalled 4,884 compared with 4,903 in 1952 and 4,801 in 1951.

It will be seen from Table I that the high annual figure for inspections of dwellinghouses was maintained and that work in connection with food hygiene, pest destruction and Shops Act administration was continued on the intensified scale adopted during the last few years.

As in previous years, housing inspections for the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee again occupied a great deal of time, but as these are closely related to other statutory housing duties with which the department is concerned they were readily combined with normal housing work.

HOUSING.

Nine houses which had become dangerously dilapidated were represented under the provisions of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as unfit for human habitation. Demolition orders were made in respect of seven of these houses and closing orders in respect of two. One house was demolished as a result of informal procedure and two under the terms of demolition orders made in earlier years. Ten families were rehoused by the local authority from houses subject to demolition orders and one family obtained privately-owned accommodation.

The Public Inquiry into the subject of the Clearance Order and Compulsory Purchase Order affecting 76 unfit houses in Friar Street, Chapel Court, Friars Court, Monk Street, Crompton Row and Crompton Street, took place during the year and the Orders were confirmed by the Minister with one modification. This required full compensation to be paid for one house not considered by the Minister as included solely on the grounds of its unfit condition. During the year under review it was not possible to offer alternative accommodation to any of the tenants in this area, but one house was vacated and not relet.

The Sub-Committee of the Public Health and Housing Committee appointed in November, 1952, to assess the relative need for action in respect of houses listed nine years ago as unfit for habitation and to formulate a programme based upon the degree of urgency indicated, began its work early in the year. It is unfortunate that a total review of the town's problem was not completed, as this would have expedited the work entailed in preparing details for a slum clearance programme which has since become obligatory. Nevertheless, the Sub-Committee's findings as far as they went showed that the total number of houses calling for demolition was of the order of that stated in 1945 when it was reported that upwards of 800 houses were unfit for habitation and not capable of being made fit at a reasonable expense. The findings also revealed that the area between Emscote Road and the river at the eastern extremity of the town should be treated as one of urgency.

The grave disquiet expressed in earlier reports at the slow progress in building replacement dwellings was accentuated during the year when the seemingly interminable struggle to balance the claims of the homeless for municipal houses with those living in grossly sub-standard houses became steadily more exacting. A number of things have become increasingly clear. Many of the unfit houses, still occupied and referred to from year to year, are developing alarming structural defects and have passed the stage when patching repairs, grudgingly undertaken by owners months after repairs notices have been served, will suffice to keep them safely in use for a further long term. Ugly gaps now appearing in the town's streets and the subject of increasingly unfavourable comment, will be added to, not from anyone's choice, but from the fact that when a house has given notice of its impending collapse, demolition cannot wait until a tidy planned scheme of re-development can proceed. The critics of Housing Act procedure are not in a position to make the detailed examination necessary before a house is represented for immediate action and the criteria which the Council have to consider are rarely obvious from a cursory inspection of the street elevation.

The question of gauging the proportion of new accommodation to be made available to enable slum clearance to proceed will call for serious thought during the next year or two. Undoubtedly the number of new houses devoted to this purpose will have to be increased if any substantial progress is to be made. Though a decision of this nature would be unpalatable to the hundreds of housing applicants now living in rooms, it has to be remembered that the re-occupation of unfit houses adds to the grave housing problems of the town, particularly as this Borough suffers more than most from the influx of workers from distant parts of the country.

Perhaps the most heartening feature of the clearance campaign now envisaged is the extent of redevelopment possible in the comparatively near future if the allied questions of demolition and redevelopment are tackled vigorously. The time has arrived when the future use of sites which need clearing should be determined more clearly and detailed work should be undertaken as soon as possible. This work can be aided to a high degree by the fullest use of the powers provided by recent housing legislation. The demolition of the worst of the unfit houses in the first five years programme, acquisition of blighted areas not capable of complete demolition within the first

programme, redevelopment concurrent with demolition (involving transfers of some families from houses needing to be cleared to make way for redevelopment to other houses in the same area which may be given an increased life by limited repairs) are matters which will have to be studied by the Council in fulfilling recently-imposed obligations. Deferment of demolition of a large number of houses known to be unfit fundamentally is not a very appealing proposal but it is an obvious necessity in Warwick and if these houses were acquired and repaired for temporary occupation, with the aid of a contribution from the general rate fund, a vast improvement in the total housing standard would result.

HOUSING REPAIRS.

In view of their high cost, repairs to old obsolescent property continued to be limited to urgent work. Even though in most cases the defects made the subject of notices were of an urgent nature, the difficulty experienced in getting the repairs carried out increased due to the insufficient labour force engaged on repair work in the town. Quite often a period of several months now elapses from the date an owner has been persuaded to place an order with a builder and that on which the work is completed.

In the case of better class property and houses capable of providing good accommodation for many years to come, efforts continued to avoid extensive disrepair. Intimation notices forwarded to owners gave particulars of defects calling for urgent remedy and in addition drew attention to work necessary in the interests of timely maintenance. In a large number of cases a general overhaul was carried out.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Apart from inspections made under sections 11 and 25 (provisions relating to unfit houses not capable of being rendered fit) and of section 58 (overcrowding), 121 houses were inspected under the Housing Act. Of these, 60 were of the self-contained terrace-type property. One hundred and two notices were served during the year and 68 were complied with. A substantial portion of the outstanding notices have been partly complied with and urgent repairs have been carried out in practically every instance. Since the re-commencement of house-to-house inspections in the Borough, a total of 187 houses have been so inspected, and of these, 123 have been brought up to a satisfactory state of repair.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING.

Fifty-four new houses were occupied during the year; this represented the last instalment of the Forbes Estate, except for a block of flats and 12 aged persons bungalows. At the end of the year the local authority owned 1,062 houses (including 50 prefabricated bungalows) and 52 flats, or in total 24 per cent of the dwellings in the Borough. In all 65 families, with a population of 258, were rehoused during 1953.

Of the families formerly in rooms, 30 were rehoused in new houses or flats, two in houses erected prior to 1939 and one in a prefabricated bungalow. Eighteen families formerly occupying old houses were rehoused in new houses, two in houses erected prior to 1939 and two

in prefabricated bungalows. In addition, ten families from houses subject to demolition orders were rehoused, six new houses, one pre-1939 and one prefabricated bungalow being allocated for the purpose ; two other families were housed in property owned by the Council in Pickard Row. Three families were rehoused on the grounds of Tuberculosis. To promote the fuller use of municipal accommodation numerous transfers were effected during the year and a high proportion of the prefabricated bungalows figured in this process.

In the eight years since the end of 1945, 600 families, comprising 2,299 persons, have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 1,541 applications, 153 of these being registered during 1953. Though quite a number of applications are cancelled, either at the request of the applicants or upon instructions from the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee, the majority are found to be genuinely made and experience shows that three out of every four have eventually to be satisfied. The rate of new applications appears at last to be falling but is still far in excess of the rate of building and the average waiting period is still lengthening. It will be seen that new building during 1953 again fell very much short of the annual requirement.

At the 31st December, there were 768 applications outstanding, 424 being in rooms or otherwise without a house and 344 in houses. Most of the latter were occupying overcrowded and/or unfit dwellings. Of the 424 applications from homeless people, 174 were from childless couples, 166 from applicants with one child, 65 from those with two children, 13 from applicants with three children and six from applicants with four or more children. Of the homeless, the average waiting period since marriage was six years and considerably longer in the case of applicants occupying houses unsuitable for their needs.

As has been stated in previous reports, the number of housing applicants falls far short of the total of new houses needed, as the figure includes only a small proportion of the tenants of houses which must be demolished to bring about a substantial improvement in the general standard of houses in the town. Numerous cases of overcrowding, too, do not figure in the register of applicants.

Investigations into bad housing conditions again showed that the rent problem was the principal factor deterring some people living in grossly sub-standard accommodation from applying for the municipal houses and, except for this question, the waiting list would be much longer than it is.

On the other hand the readiness with which some people make sacrifices to secure a good home, a matter referred to in last year's report, was even more apparent than previously. This attitude, however, does not appear to extend to house purchase very far, as few of the applicants whose circumstances proved that they were in a good position to buy their own house showed much interest when the Council offered for sale sites for private development. Possible reasons why applicants are not inclined to help themselves in this matter were discussed in last year's report and it is hoped that greater enthusiasm will be shown when land for private building is available on the Percy Estate shortly to be developed.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS.

Three thousand, three hundred and twenty-six inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act.

As in previous years, most of the 667 Public Health Act notices issued related to dwelling house defects of a general nature and were limited to urgent matters. In 79 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES.

Ninety-eight notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with; 38 notices requiring repairs to water-closets received attention; 11 washhouses were rebuilt or repaired in compliance with notices; 7 dustbins required by notices were provided, and 18 accumulations of refuse were removed following notices.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is only one common lodging house in use. The return of lodgers sleeping in the town during the year is as follows:—

Adults :	Males	...	...	7,112
	Females	...	...	364
	Total	...	...	7,476
Under 10 years	...	...	...	Nil.

VERMIN INFESTATIONS.

Rats and Mice.—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued. During the year, the Department dealt with infestations principally of a minor character at 62 dwelling houses, 13 factories, 27 shops, 5 clubs and licensed premises, 3 schools, 2 hotels and cafes, 10 allotments and plots of land and 4 streams. In addition, 15 visits were made to hospitals and 9 visits to places of entertainment.

The Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were treated regularly, and one treatment of the sewers was carried out during the year. Two large blocks of properties were surveyed.

Bed Bugs.—Complaints of bed bug infestations were again noticeably fewer than was usual a few years ago, though infestations persist in certain blocks of old and unfit property. Apart from issuing insecticide to numerous applicants, the Department treated 25 houses successfully. Six lots of verminous bedding were disinfested or destroyed. Thorough precautions to prevent infestations of new houses and flats were adopted in all cases where tenants of infested houses were rehoused in municipal houses.

Smoke Nuisances.—Observations of industrial chimneys appeared to show that there was less cause for action to abate smoke nuisances than in previous years. Three notices were served when excessive atmospheric pollution was observed. As in previous years, managements were interviewed and firing methods discussed with both stokers and managements. It was again noticeable that the installation of "underfeed stokers" at factories practically eliminated the nuisance from "black" smoke.

Sanitary Accommodation at Public Houses and Places of Public Entertainment.—The sanitary accommodation at the cinema was inspected and here, and at licensed premises generally, the facilities were found to be of a good standard and well maintained. Sanitary accommodation was improved at two licensed premises.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Twelve inspections for the purposes of sections 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were made. Four notices requiring owners to discontinue the use of unlicensed sites for caravan purposes were issued, and in all instances, statutory notices were subsequently served. Three licences permitting the stationing of caravans were granted.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Additional sanitary accommodation was provided at four factories, and existing accommodation was improved at two factories. Washing facilities were improved at two factories.

Outworkers lists received from employers showed that only three persons were employed as such in the Borough.

The Register now includes 120 factories, 93 having mechanical power, (at which local authority's duties are limited to the enforcement of section 7 of the Factories Act, 1937), 17 without mechanical power and 10 other premises to which the Factories Act applies.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

One business in the Borough has been registered as required by the above Act, and regular inspections are made of the premises.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Systematic inspections of shops continued. The following improvements were made at shops during the year under review : sanitary accommodation improved at five shops ; improved washing facilities (including provision of geysers) at 7 shops ; improved ventilation at 7 shops ; additional seats for staff at 7 shops. Other contraventions were remedied at 22 shops. Certificates of exemption from the necessity to provide sanitary accommodation are now in operation at five shops.

TERMINAL DISINFECTION.

Twenty-eight houses were disinfected following removal of patients to hospital or at the request of occupiers, and six lots of bedding were disinfected or destroyed, apart from that treated in situ. Twenty-three investigations were made following the notifications of infectious diseases.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Registers.—The following make up the current registers :—

Milk distributors	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dairies other than farms	...	...	...	...	...	7

DAIRIES.

All dairies were inspected regularly during the year and were maintained at a good standard.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences were in operation during the year :—

Dealers' Licences to use the designation :—

" Tuberculin Tested " ...	12
" Pasteurised " ...	13

Supplementary Licences to use the designation :—

" Tuberculin Tested " ...	1
" Pasteurised " ...	1
" Sterilised " ...	1

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED FOR " SELF SUPPLIERS " OF MEAT

Three pigs were inspected.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Four hundred and sixty-four visits were made to shops and food stores for food inspections and the enforcement of other provisions of the Food and Drugs Act and Byelaws made thereunder. Food found to be unfit for human consumption weighed 6 tons, 15 cwts., 3 qrs. 13 ozs.

The enforcement of Section 13 and 14 of the Food and Drugs Act and of Byelaws made under Section 15 of that Act, all of which concern the suitability of premises for food preparation and personal hygiene in relation to the manufacture, storage and sale of food-stuffs, continued to occupy a good deal of time. Improvements have been effected at many premises and particular attention was given to the provision of a constant supply of hot water at all food premises.

Attention was directed to the need for stricter cleanliness at food premises and in 43 instances, manufacturers or retailers improved matters in this respect. In addition, 11 traders were required to provide protection for food displayed in the open air. In 21 other instances, traders were cautioned regarding the possibility of contamination through the placing of foodstuffs in unsuitable positions.

In all, 95 notices were issued, and at the end of the year, 85 had been complied with.

One boarding-house was closed during the year.

The following is a summary of the principal improvements made during the year :—

Restaurants, Cafes, Canteens and Snack Bars.—New washing facilities provided at one ; redecorations at 7 ; improved food storage facilities at one.

Butchers', Bakers' and Confectioners' Shops.—Structural improvements at four ; three shops redecorated ; improved washing facilities at five ; improved sanitary accommodation at four ; one bakehouse improved.

Greengrocers' Shops.—New washing facilities at three ; three shops redecorated ; structural improvements at three.

Wet Fish and Fried Fish Shops.—One fried fish shop was closed.

Sugar Confectionery Shops.—New washing facilities at two ; two shops redecorated ; structural improvements at two.

Hotels and Boarding Houses.—Improved washing facilities at two ; redecorations at four.

Grocers' Shops and General Shops Retailing Grocery.—Four shops redecorated ; improved washing facilities at three ; structural improvements at one.

Market Stalls and Mobile Canteens.—These were inspected regularly, particular attention being given to the protection of foodstuffs. Canteens and Food Stalls at Warwick Mop and the Race-Course were inspected. No food vendor is allowed to attend the Mop unless his vehicle or stall has been approved.

Ice Cream Premises and Vendors.—Thirteen premises from which ice-cream is sold were registered during the year. There are now 65 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream. Improvements of a general nature were carried out at nineteen premises. The vehicles and equipment of mobile vendors were subject to inspection and in two instances ice-cream sales were discontinued from unsatisfactory tricycles following representations to the retailers concerned.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Fifteen licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted.

CONCLUSION.

I wish to thank the members of the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental conditions with which I am concerned. I desire also to thank chief officers of other departments for helpful co-operation and members of my staff for willingness to meet any increased demands upon the office and for excellent services throughout the year.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK,

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Borough of Warwick.

TABLE I

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1953

				Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notice.
					Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...			2468	18	285	225
Lodging Houses	...	...	...	4	—	—	2
Factories	...	...	...	43	—	10	10
Licensed Premises	...	...		10	1	4	2
Canal Boats	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Water-closets	...	...	...	125	2	52	38
Drainage	...	...	...	111	42	128	98
Water Supply	...	...	...	40	1	18	23
Places of Entertainment	...			6	—	—	2
Caravans	...	...	...	12	4	4	6
Dustbins	...	...	...	121	5	17	18
Deposits of Refuse	...	...		30	3	23	18
Pigsties	...	...	...	22	—	4	4
Vermin Infestations	...	...		958	—	—	2
Shops	...	...	...	102	—	29	33
Animals improperly kept	...	...		16	1	14	17
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	31	—	3	5
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...		21	—	—	—
Bakehouses	...	...	...	5	—	1	1
Slaughter Houses, Butchers' and other Retail Food Shops	...			464	—	55	44
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation				196	—	25	28
Ice-Cream Premises and Vehicles				46	—	8	8
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	...		30	3	36	30
Hotels	...	...	...	20	1	1	3
TOTALS	...	...		4884	81	717	617

							No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	...				76
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	...				—
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	...				6
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...				28
„ Disinfested for Vermin	...	...	...				25
New houses and flats treated with insecticide as a precautionary measure	...	...	...	...	...	...	46

J. BULLOCK, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1953 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1946	14,810	304	21.2	11	36	157	11.0
1947	14,470	304	21.0	11	36	157	10.9
1948	15,550	281	18.1	7	25	144	9.3
1949	15,170	244	16.1	4	16	152	10.0
1950	15,360	241	15.7	5	20.8	176	11.5
1951	15,550	235	15.1	3	12.8	189	12.2
1952	15,510	270	17.4	6	22.2	166	10.7
1953	15,620	238	15.2	3	12.6	171	10.9

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1953.
ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1953.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.					Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.		
			Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.		
England and Wales	...	...	15.5	0.35	11.4	26.8
160 Great Towns, including London			17.0	0.43	12.2	30.8	
160 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.7	0.34	11.3	24.3
London	17.5	0.38	12.5	24.8

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR
1953.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.									Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....
Scarlet Fever	7	.....	2	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhus Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	6	.....	.....	.....	1	2	1	2	.....
Malaria ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	10	2	4	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	.....	.....	.....	7	3	.....	.....	10
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	6	.....	1	3	2	.....	.....	.....	5
Whooping Cough	103	12	57	31	.....	1	1	1	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	149	4	26	110	8	1	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	39	.....	1	4	11	15	7	1	.....
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Food Poisoning	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Totals	338	20	91	156	29	24	13	5	16	

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1953

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—
2 Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease... ..	—	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	1	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	6	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	8	9
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1
16 Diabetes	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	10
18 Coronary disease, angina	14	18
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	7
20 Other heart disease	7	12
21 Other circulatory disease	5	2
22 Influenza	3	1
23 Pneumonia	4	6
24 Bronchitis... ..	3	1
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	—	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	—	4
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	—	—
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	3
33 Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
34 All other accidents	3	3
35 Suicide	3	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All causes	88	83

